

SECOND COLLEGE EDITION

WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD DICTIONARY

OF THE AMERICAN LANGUAGE

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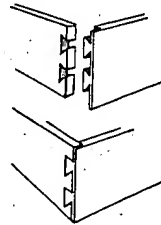
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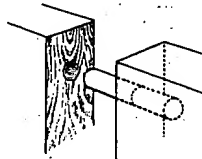
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douse¹ (dɔʊz) *vi.* doused, dous'ing same as DOWSE²
douze-pers (dooz'perz') *n. pl.* [ME. *dousse pers* < OFr. *douze pers*, lit., twelve peers] *Fr. History* the twelve great peers of the realm
dove¹ (dʊv) *n.* [ME. *douve* < OE. **dufe* or ON. *dūfa*, akin to Goth. *dubō*, G. *laube* < IE. base **dheubh-*, smoky, misty, dark (of color), whence DEAF, DUMB] 1. a bird of the pigeon family (Columbidae), esp. the smaller species, with a full-breasted body, short legs, and a typical cooing cry; it is often used as a symbol of peace ★2. an advocate of measures in international affairs designed to avoid or reduce open hostilities: cf. HAWK¹ 3. a person regarded as gentle, innocent, or beloved —*dov'ish adj.*
dove² (dōv) *alt. pl.* of DIVE
dove-cote (dʊv'kōt', -kāt') *n.* [ME. *douvecote*: see DOVE¹ & COT¹] a small house or box with compartments for nesting pigeons, usually on a pole: also *dove'cot'* (-kāt')
dove-kie, dove-key (dʊv'kē) *n.* [DOVE¹ + *-kie, -key*, dim. suffix] 1. a small auk (*Plautius alle*) of the Arctic and N Atlantic coasts 2. same as BLACK GUILLEMOT
Do-ver (dō'vər) 1. seaport in Kent, SE England, on the Strait of Dover: pop. 36,000 2. capital of Del., in the C part: pop. 24,000 3. Strait (or Straits) of, strait between France and England, joining the North Sea and the English Channel: narrowest point, 21 mi.
Do-ver's powder (dō'vərz) [after Thomas Dover (1660–1742), Brit. physician] a preparation of opium, ipecac, etc., formerly used to relieve pain and induce perspiration
dove-tail (dʊv'tāl') *n.* 1. a part or thing shaped like a dove's tail; specif., a projecting, wedge-shaped part (*tenon*) that fits into a corresponding cut-out space (*mortise*) to form an interlocking joint 2. a joint thus formed —*vt.* 1. to join or fasten together by means of dovetails 2. to piece together (facts, etc.) so as to make a logically connected whole —*vi.* to fit together closely or logically
Dow (dou), Gerard see DOU
dow-a-ger (dou'ə jər) *n.* [OFr. *douagiere* < *douage*, dowry < *douer*, to give a dowry < L. *dotare*, to endow < *dos*: see DOR¹] 1. a widow with a title or property derived from her dead husband: often used in combination with the title [*queen dowager, dowager duchess*] 2. an elderly woman of wealth and dignity
Dow-den (dou'd'n), Edward 1843–1913; Ir. critic, biographer, & Shakespearean scholar
dow-dy (dou'dē) *adj.* -di-er, -di-est [*<* ME. *doude*, an unattractive woman + -y] not neat or stylish in dress or appearance; shabby —*n., pl.* -dies 1. a dowdy woman ★2. same as PANDOWDY —*dow'di-ly adv.* —*dow'di-ness n.*
dow-el (dou'əl) *n.* [ME. *doule*, prob. akin to MLowG. *dōvel*, G. *döbel*, a plug < ? IE. base **dheubh-*, peg, wooden pin: cf. DUB¹] a peg or pin of wood, metal, etc., usually fitted into corresponding holes in two pieces to fasten them together —*vt.* -eled or -elled, -el-ing or -el-ling to fasten or furnish with dowels
dow-er (dou'ər) *n.* [ME. *douere* < OFr. *douaire* < ML. *dolarium* < L. *dos*: see DOR¹] 1. that part of a man's property which his widow inherits for life 2. a dowry 3. a natural talent, gift, or endowment —*vt.* 1. to give a dowry to 2. to endow (*with*)
dow-itch-er (dou'ə chər) *n., pl.* -ers, -er: see PLURAL, II, p. 1 [*<* Amlnd. (Iroquoian) native name] a medium-sized, long-legged shore bird (*Limnodromus griseus*) of N. America
Dow-land (dou'lənd), John 1563?–1626; Eng. lutanist & composer of songs
Down (daʊn) former county in SE Northern Ireland: replaced by a number of new districts in 1973
down¹ (daʊn) *adv.* [ME. *down* < *adune*, adown < OE. *adune*, of *dune*, from the hill < *a-*, off, from + *dune*, dat. of *dun*, hill: see DOWN²] 1. from a higher to a lower place; toward the ground 2. in or on a lower position or level; specif., to a sitting or reclining position 3. a) in or to a place thought of as lower or below; often, specif., southward [*to go down to Florida*] b) out of one's hands [*put it down*] 4. below the horizon 5. from an earlier to a later period or person [*down through the years*] 6. into a low or dejected emotional condition 7. into a low or prostrate physical condition [*to come down with a cold*] 8. in or into an inferior position or condition [*held down by harsh laws*] 9. to a lower amount, value, or bulk [*to come down in price*] 10. to a less excited or active condition; into a tranquil or quiet state [*to settle down*] 11. in a serious or earnest manner [*to get down to work*] 12. completely; to the full extent [*loaded down*] 13. in cash or when bought [*five dollars down and the remainder in installments*] 14. in writing; on record [*take down his name*] —*adj.* 1. descending; directed toward a lower position 2. in a lower place; on the ground 3. gone, brought, pulled, etc. down 4. dejected; discouraged 5. prostrate; ill 6. completed; finished [*four down, six to go*] ★7. in cash, as part of the purchase price [*a down payment*] 8. *Sports* ★a) no longer in play; said of a football b) trailing an opponent by a specified number of points, strokes, etc. ★c) Baseball put out —*prep.* down toward,



DOVETAIL



DOWEL

along, through, into, or upon —*vt.* 1. a) to put, bring, get, throw, or knock down b) to defeat, as in a game 2. to gulp or eat rapidly —*vi.* [Rare] to go, come, or get down —*n.* 1. a downward movement or depressed condition; defeat, misfortune, etc.: see the phrase UPS AND DOWNS at UP ★2. Football a) one of four consecutive plays in which a team, in order to keep possession of the ball, must either score or advance the ball at least ten yards b) the declaring of the ball as down, or no longer in play —*★down and out* 1. Boxing knocked out 2. without money, friends, health, etc. —*down on* [Colloq.] hostile to; angry or annoyed with —*down to the ground* thoroughly; completely —*down with* 1. put down 2. overthrow; do away with; an expression of disfavor See also phrases under BREAK¹, PUT, TRACK, etc.
down² (daʊn) *n.* [ME. *doun* < ON. *dūnn*, akin to Goth. *dauns*, fume < IE. base **dheu-*, to fly like dust, whence L. *fumus* (cf. FUME)] 1. soft, fine feathers, as on young birds 2. soft, fine hair or hairy growth
down³ (daʊn) *n.* [ME. *doun* < OE. *dun*, a hill, akin to ODu. *duna*, LowG. *dūne*, sandhill (see DUNE)] an expanse of open, high, grassy land: usually used in pl. —*the Downs* 1. two ranges of low, grassy hills (North Downs & South Downs) in SE England 2. roadstead in the Strait of Dover, off the coast of Kent, England
down- (daʊn) a combining form meaning down [*downhill*]
down-beat (-bē't) *n.* Music the downward stroke of the conductor's hand or baton indicating the first beat of each measure —*★adj.* [Colloq.] grimly realistic; depressing
down-bow (-bō') *n.* a stroke on a violin, etc. in which the bow is drawn across the strings from the handle to the tip: symbol, 
down-cast (-kast', -käst') *adj.* 1. directed downward 2. very unhappy or discouraged; sad; dejected
★Down East [Colloq.] New England, esp. Maine: also *down east* —*down-east' adj.* —*down-east'er n.*
down-er (-ər) *n.* [Slang] 1. any depressant or sedative, as a tranquilizer, barbiturate, alcoholic drink, etc. ★2. something depressing; esp., a depressing experience
Dow-ney (dou'nē) [after John G. Downey, governor of Calif., 1860–62] city in SW Calif.: suburb of Los Angeles: pop. 83,000
down-fall (daʊn'fɔl') *n.* 1. a) a sudden fall, as from prosperity or power b) the cause of such a fall 2. a sudden, heavy fall, as of snow
down-fall-en (-fɔl'n) *adj.* fallen; ruined
★down-grade (-grād') *n.* a downward slope, esp. in a road —*adv., adj.* downhill; downward —*vt.* -grad'ed, -grad'ing 1. to demote to a less skilled job at lower pay 2. to lower in importance, value, esteem, etc. 3. to belittle —*on the down-grade* losing status, influence, health, etc.; declining
down-haul (-hɔl') *n.* a rope for hauling down a sail
down-heart-ed (-här'tid) *adj.* in low spirits; discouraged; dejected —*down-heart'ed-ly adv.*
down-hill (-hil') *adv.* 1. toward the bottom of a hill 2. to a poorer condition, status, etc. —*adj.* 1. sloping or going downward 2. of or having to do with skiing downhill
★down-home (-hōm') *adj.* [Colloq.] 1. of, from, or associated with a rural, esp. Southern, area 2. having characteristics associated with rural people; simple, warm, direct, etc.
down-i-ness (daʊn'ē nis) *n.* the quality of being downy
Down-ing Street (daʊn'ɪŋ) [after Sir George Downing (1623–84), who owned property there] 1. street in the West End of London, location of some of the principal government offices, including the official residence of the prime minister (No. 10) 2. the British government
down-play (daʊn'plā') *vt.* to play down; minimize
down-pour (daʊn'pɔr') *n.* a heavy rain
★down-range (-rāŋ') *adv., adj.* along the course away from the launching site
down-right (-rit') *adv.* [ME. *doun riht*: see DOWN¹ & RIGHT] 1. thoroughly; utterly 2. [Archaic] straight down —*adj.* 1. absolute; thoroughgoing [*a downright insult*] 2. straightforward; plain; frank 3. [Archaic] going straight downward
★down-scale (-skāl') *adj.* designating, of, or for people who are not affluent, are relatively unstylish, etc.
down-shift (-shift') *vi.* to shift the transmission of a motor vehicle to a lower gear or arrangement
down-side (-sid') *adj.* of or involving a downward trend or financial loss, as on an investment
★down-size (-siz') *vt.* -sized', -siz'ing to produce smaller models or styles of [*to downsize automobiles*]
★down-spout (-spout') *n.* a vertical pipe for carrying rain water from a roof gutter to ground level
Down's syndrome (daʊnz) [after J. L. H. Down (1828–96), Eng. physician who first described it] same as MONGOLISM: Eng. the preferred term
down-stage (daʊn'stāj') *adv.* toward the front of the stage —*adj.* having to do with the front of the stage
down-stairs (-sterz') *adv.* 1. down the stairs 2. on or to a lower floor —*adj.* situated on a lower floor —*n.* a lower floor or floors
★down-state (-stāt') *n.* that part of a State farther to the south —*adj., adv.* in, to, or from downstate
down-stream (-strēm') *adv., adj.* in the direction of the current of a stream
down-swing (-swɪŋ') *n.* 1. the downward part of a swing, as of a golf club 2. a downward trend, as in business
down-throw (-thrō') *n.* Geol. that side of a fault which has moved downward relative to the other side

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ju-ve-nes-cent (jōō'və nes'nt) *adj.* [L. *juvenescens*, prp. of *juvenescere*, to become young < *juvenis*, YOUNG] becoming young; growing youthful —**ju've-nes'cence** *n.*
ju-ven-ile (jōō'və n'l, -nīl') *adj.* [L. *juvenilis* < *juvenis*, YOUNG] 1. a) young or youthful b) immature or childish 2. of, characteristic of, or suitable for children or young persons 3. *Geol.* emanating from the interior of the earth for the first time: said of gas, water, etc. —*n.* 1. a young person; child or youth 2. an actor who plays youthful roles 3. a book for children 4. a two-year-old race horse 5. *Biol.* a young plant or animal differing variously in form, features, etc. from the adult —*SYN.* see YOUNG
juvenile court a law court for cases involving children under a specified age, usually 18 years
juvenile delinquency behavior by minors of not more than a specified age, usually 18 years, that is antisocial or in violation of the law —**juvenile delinquent**
juvenile hormone a hormone secreted by insects that regulates growth and metamorphosis and which must be

absent for the emergence of an adult: used to inhibit insect growth, as for preventing insect reproduction
ju-ve-nil-i-a (jōō'və nīl'ēə, -nīl'yə) *n.pl.* [L., neut. pl. of *juvenilis*, JUVENILE] 1. writings, paintings, etc. done in childhood or youth 2. books for children
ju-ve-nil-i-ty (-ə tē) *n., pl. -ties* [L. *juvenilitas*] 1. the quality or state of being juvenile 2. a childish action, manner, etc.
jux-ta- (juk'stə) [Fr. < L. *juxta*, near, beside < IE. **yugistos*, superl. of base **yug-*, closely connected, var. of **yeg-*, whence Yoke] a combining form meaning near, beside, close by [*juxtaposition*]
jux-ta-pose (juk'stə pōz') *vt. -posed', -pos'ing* [Fr. *juxtaposer*: see prec. & POSE'] to put side by side or close together —**jux'ta-po-si'tion** *n.*
JWB Jewish Welfare Board
J.W.V., JWV Jewish War Veterans
Jy. July
Jyl-land (yül'län) *Dan. name of JUTLAND*

K

K, k (kā) *n., pl. K's, k's* 1. the eleventh letter of the English alphabet: from the Greek *kappa*, a borrowing from the Phoenician 2. the sound of *K* or *k*, normally a voiceless velar stop: when used as the first letter of a word and followed by *n*, it is usually not pronounced (Ex.: *knee, knife*) 3. a type or impression for *K* or *k* 4. a symbol for the eleventh in a sequence or group (or the tenth if *J* is omitted) —*adj.* 1. of *K* or *k* 2. eleventh (or tenth if *J* is omitted) in a sequence or group
K¹ (kā) *n.* 1. an object shaped like *K* 2. a symbol for: a) carat b) [ModL. *kalium*] Chem. potassium c) Math. constant d) Meteorol. smoke 5e) [*< struck out*] Baseball strikeout —*adj.* shaped like *K*
K² 1. knit 2. Chess king 3. Electronics a symbol for the number 1,024, or 2¹⁰; specif., KILOBYTE 4. kindergarten
K, k. 1. Elec. capacity 2. karat (carat) 3. Physics Kelvin 4. kilo 5. king 6. knight 7. kopeck, kopecks
K2 (kā'tōō') same as GODWIN AUSTEN
ka (kā) *n.* [Egypt.] in ancient Egyptian religion, the soul, regarded as dwelling in a person's body or in an image and continuing after death
ka, kathode (cathode)
Kaa-ba (kā'ba, kā'ə ba) [Ar. *ka'bah*, lit., square building < *ka'b*, a cube] the sacred Moslem shrine at Mecca, toward which believers turn when praying: it contains a black stone supposedly given to Abraham by the angel Gabriel
kab (kab) *n.* same as CAB²
kab-a-la, kab-ba-la (kab'ə lə, kə bā'lə) *n.* same as CABALA
ka-bob (kə bāb') *n.* same as KEBAB
Ka-bu-ki (kā bōō'kē, kə-) *n.* [Jap. < *kabu*, music and dancing + *ki*, spirit] [also *k-*] a form of Japanese drama dating from the 17th cent.: it is based on popular themes, with male and female roles performed exclusively by men, chiefly in formalized pantomime, dance, and song
Ka-bul (kā'bool) capital of Afghanistan, in NE part: pop. 450,000
Ka-byle (kə bīl') *n.* [Fr. < Ar. *qabā'il*, pl. of *qabilah*, tribe] 1. a member of the Algerian or Tunisian Berber tribes 2. the Berber language of the Kabyles
***ka-chi-na** (kə chē'nə) *n., pl. -nas, -na* [Hopi *katsina*, prob. of Keres origin] 1. Pueblo Folklore a beneficent spirit, either a minor deity or the spirit of an ancestor 2. a) a male dancer impersonating such a spirit b) the mask he wears 3. a wooden doll representing the spirit
kad-dish (kā'd'ish) *n.* [Aram. *qaddish*, holy] Judaism a hymn in praise of God, recited as part of the daily service or, in one form, as a mourner's prayer
Ka-desh (kā'desh) city in ancient W Syria
ka-di (kā'dē, kā-) *n.* same as CADI
Ka-di-ye-v-ka, Ka-di-ev-ka (kā dē'yef kā) city in SE Ukrainian S.S.R., in the Donets Basin: pop. 192,000
kaf (kāf, kōf) *n.* [Heb.] the eleventh letter of the Hebrew alphabet (כ, ך), corresponding to English *K, k*
***kaf-fee-klatsch** (kā'fē kläch', kō'fē klach') *n.* [G. < *kaffee*, COFFEE + *klatsch*, gossip, of echoic orig.] [also *K-*] an informal gathering, as of housewives during the day, to drink coffee and chat: also *kaffee klatsch*
Kaf-fir (kaf'ər) *n.* [Ar. *kāfir*, infidel < prp. of *kafara*, to be

skeptical] 1. a) a member of any of several Bantu-speaking tribes of SE Africa b) same as XHOSA In these senses often regarded as contemptuous 2. [k-] same as KAFIR
kaf-fi-yeh (kā fē'yə) *n.* [Ar. *kaffiyah*, var. of *kuffiyeh*, prob. < LL. *cufea*, COIF] a headdress worn by Arabs as a protection against dust and heat: it is a large square of cotton cloth, draped and folded, and held in place by a cord wound about the head
kaf-ir (kaf'ər) *n.* [Ar. *kāfir*: see KAFFIR] 1. a nonsaccharine grain sorghum with juicy stalks and slender, cylindrical seed heads, grown in dry regions for grain and fodder: also *kafir corn* 2. [K-] same as KAFFIR
Ka-fi-ri-stan (kā'fī ri stān') former name of NURISTAN
Kaf-ka (kāf'kə), Franz (fränts) 1883-1924; Austrian-Czech writer
Kaf-ka-esque (kāf'kə esk') *adj.* of, characteristic of, or like the writings of Kafka; surreal, nightmarish, bafflingly complex, etc.
kaf-tan (kaf'tən, kāf tən') *n.* same as CAFTAN
Ka-ga-wa (kā'gā wā'), To-yo-hi-ko (tō'yō hē'kō) 1888-1960; Jap. social reformer & writer
Ka-go-shi-ma (kā'gō shē'mā) seaport on the S coast of Kyushu, Japan: pop. 328,000
Kahn test (kān) [after R. L. Kahn (1887-), U.S. immunologist, who developed it] a modified form of the Wassermann test for the diagnosis of syphilis
Ka-ho-o-la-we (kā hō'ō lā'we) [Haw. < ?] island of Hawaii, southwest of Maui: 45 sq. mi.
Kai-e-teur Falls (kī'ē toor') waterfall in WC Guyana: 741 ft. high
kail (kāl) *n.* same as KALE
kail-yard (kā'l'yārd') *n.* [Scot.] a kaleyard: applied to the fiction of J. M. Barrie and others (the kailyard school) dealing with Scottish life and using much Scottish dialect
kai-nite (kī'nīt', kā-) *n.* [G. *kainit* < Gr. *kainos*, new < IE. base **ken-*, to sprout forth, whence L. -cens: cf. RECENT] a mineral, MgSO₄·KCl·3H₂O, much used in fertilizers as a source of potassium
Kair-ouan (ker wān') city in NE Tunisia: holy city of the Moslems: pop. 82,000
kai-ser (kī'zər) *n.* [ME. *caiser* < or akin to OFris. *keiser*, ON. *keisari*, OHG. *kaisar*, Gmc. borrowing < L. *Caesar*, family name of first Roman emperors; reinforced, esp. in senses b & c, by G. *kaiser*] emperor: the title [K-] of: a) the rulers of the Holy Roman Empire, 962-1806 b) the rulers of Austria, 1804-1918 c) the rulers of Germany, 1871-1918
Kai-ser (kī'zər), Henry J(ohn) 1882-1967; U.S. industrialist
kaiser roll [after KAISER (? orig. made to honor an emperor)] a large, round, crusty roll, used for sandwiches
ka-ka (kā'ka) *n.* [Maori: echoic of the bird's cry] a New Zealand parrot (*Nestor meridionalis*) having an olive-brown body with markings of various other colors
ka-ka-po (kā'kə pō') *n., pl. -pos'* [Maori < *kaka*, parrot + *po*, night] a nocturnal burrowing parrot (*Strigops habroptilus*) of New Zealand having a green body with brown and yellow markings
ka-ke-mo-no (kā'kə mō'nō) *n., pl. -nos* [Jap. < *kake*, to hang + *mono*, thing] a Japanese hanging or scroll made of silk or paper with an inscription or picture on it

fat, āpe, cār, ten, ēven; is, bīte; gō, hōrn, tōōl, look; oil, out; up, fūr; get; joy; yet; chin; she; thīn, shen; zh, leisure; ŋ, ring; ə for a in ago, e in agent, i in sanity, o in comply, u in focus; ' as in able (ā'b'l); Fr. bāl; ē, Fr. cœur; ô, Fr. feu; Fr. mon; ô, Fr. coq; ü, Fr. duc; r, Fr. cri; H, G. ich; kh, G. doch. See inside front cover. ★ Americanism; † foreign; * hypothetical; < derived from

Mary at the crucifixion of Jesus 2. any musical setting of this hymn

sta·bile (stā'b'l, -bil; also, and for *n.* usually, -bēl) *adj.* [*L. stabilis*: see **STABLE**, *adj.*] 1. stable; stationary; fixed in position 2. *Med.* resistant to moderate heat —*n.* a large piece of stationary abstract sculpture, usually a construction of metal, wire, wood, etc.: the analogue of **MOBILE** **sta·bil·i·ty** (stā bil'ə tē) *n.*, *pl.* -ties [*ME. stablete* < *OFR. stableté* < *L. stabilitas*] 1. the state or quality of being stable, or fixed; steadiness 2. firmness of character, purpose, or resolution 3. *a*) resistance to change; permanence *b*) resistance to chemical decomposition 4. the capacity of an object to return to equilibrium or to its original position after having been displaced 5. *R.C.Ch.* a vow taken by some monks to remain for life in the same monastery

sta·bi·lize (stā'bē līz') *vt.* -lized', -līz'ing [*Fr. stabiliser* < *L. stabilis*: see **STABLE** & -IZE] 1. to make stable, or firm 2. to keep from changing or fluctuating, as in price 3. to give stability to (an airplane, ship, etc.) with a stabilizer —*vi.* to become stabilized —**sta·bi·li·za·tion** *n.* **sta·bi·liz·er** (-lī'zər) *n.* a person or thing that stabilizes; specif., *a*) any of the airfoils or vanes that keep an airplane steady in flight, specif. the horizontal component of the tail section *b*) a device used to steady a ship in rough waters, esp. a gyrostabilizer; also, a gyroscope used to keep instruments on a ship, aircraft, etc. in a steady position *c*) any additive used in substances and compounds to keep them stable, retard deterioration, etc.

sta·ble (stā'b'l) *adj.* -bler, -blest [*ME. < OFr. estable* < *L. stabilis* < *stare*, to STAND] 1. *a*) not easily moved or thrown off balance; firm; steady *b*) not likely to break down, fall apart, or give way; fixed 2. firm in character, purpose, or resolution; steadfast 3. not likely to change or be affected adversely; lasting; enduring 4. capable of returning to equilibrium or original position after having been displaced 5. *Chem., Physics* *a*) not readily decomposing or changing from one state of matter to another *b*) not undergoing spontaneous change 6. *Nuclear Physics* incapable of radio-active decay —**sta·bly** *adv.*

sta·ble (stā'b'l) *n.* [*ME. < OFr. estable* < *L. stabulum* < *stare*, to STAND] 1. *a*) a building in which horses or cattle are sheltered and fed *b*) a group of animals kept or belonging in such a building 2. *a*) all the racehorses belonging to one owner *b*) the people employed to take care of and train such a group of racehorses 3. [*Colloq.*] all the athletes, writers, performers, etc. under one management, with one agent, etc. —*vt.*, *vi.* -bled, -bling to lodge, keep, or be kept in or as in a stable

sta·ble·boy (-boi') *n.* a boy who works in a stable

sta·ble·man (-mən, -man') *n.*, *pl.* -men (-mən, -men') a man who works in a stable

sta·bling (stā'blīŋ) *n.* 1. a stable or stables 2. accommodations in a stable or stables, for horses, etc.

stab·lish (stab'lish) *vt.* *archaic* var. of **ESTABLISH**

stac·ca·to (stā kāt'ō) *adj.* [*It., pp. of staccare*, short for *distaccare*, to detach] 1. *Music* with distinct breaks between successive tones: usually indicated by a dot (*staccato* mark) placed over or under each note to be so produced: cf. **LEGATO**: abbrev. *stacc.* 2. made up of abrupt, distinct elements or sounds (*a staccato* outburst of gunfire) —*adv.* so as to be staccato —*n.*, *pl.* -tos something, as a speech pattern, that is staccato

stack (stāk) *n.* [*ME. stac* < *ON. stakkr* < *IE. *stāk-*, to stand, be placed < **stā-*, to stand (cf. **STAND**)] 1. a large pile of straw, hay, etc., esp. one neatly arranged, as in a conical form, for outdoor storage 2. any somewhat orderly pile or heap, as of boxes, books, poker chips, etc. 3. a number of arms, esp. three rifles, leaning against one another on end so as to form a cone 4. in Great Britain, a unit of measure for wood, equal to 108 cubic feet 5. *a*) a number of chimney flues or pipes arranged together *b*) same as **SMOKESTACK** *6. [*pl.*] an extensive series of bookshelves, or the main area for shelving books in a library 7. *a*) the part of a computer memory used to store data temporarily *b*) the data so stored 8. [*Colloq.*] a large number or amount —*vt.* 1. to pile or arrange in a stack 2. to load with stacks of something 3. to assign (aircraft) to various altitudes for circling while awaiting a turn to land 4. to arrange in advance underhandedly so as to predetermine the outcome (*to stack a jury*) —*vi.* to form a stack —**stack the cards** (or *deck*) 1. to arrange the order of playing cards secretly so that certain cards are dealt to certain players 2. to prearrange circumstances, usually secretly and unfairly —**stack up** *1. to amount (to a specified sum) *2. to stand in comparison (*with or against*); measure up —**stack·a·ble** *adj.* —**stack'er** *n.*

stacked (stāk't) *adj.* * [*Slang*] having a full, shapely figure; curvaceous: said of a woman

***stacked** (or **stack**) **heel** a heel on a woman's shoe composed of several layers, as of leather, of alternating shades

stack·up (stāk'up) *n.* an arrangement of circling aircraft at various altitudes awaiting their turn to land

stac·te (stāk'tē) *n.* [*ME. stacten* < acc. of *L. stacte*, oil of myrrh < *Gr. staktē* < *stazein*, to drip: for *IE.* base see **STAGNATE**] a spice used by the ancient Hebrews in preparing incense: Ex. 30:34

stad·dle (stad'l) *n.* [*ME. stadel* < *OE. stathol*, akin to *G. stadel*, barn: for *IE.* base see **STAND**] [*Archaic* or *Dial.*]

a lower part or support; specif., the base or supporting framework of a stack, as of hay

stade (stād) *n.* [*Fr. < L. stadium*, **STADIUM**] same as **STADIUM** (sense 1 *b*)

stad·hold·er (stad'hōl'dər) *n.* [*< Du. stadhouder* < *stad*, a place (akin to **STEAD**) & *houder*, a holder < *houden*, to HOLD] 1. orig., the governor or viceroy of a province of the Netherlands 2. the chief magistrate of the 16th–17th-cent. Netherlands republic Also **stadt·hold·er** (stat'v)

sta·di·al (stā'dē ə) *n.* [*It., prob. < L., pl. of stadium* (see **STADIUM**)] a method of surveying in which distances and elevations are obtained by observing the interval on a graduated, upright rod (*stadia rod*) intercepted by two parallel horizontal lines (*stadia hairs* or *wires*) in a surveyor's transit set up at a distance from the rod

sta·di·al (stā'dē ə) *n.* *alt. pl.* of **STADIUM**

sta·di·um (stā'dē əm) *n.*, *pl.* -di·a (-ə); also, and for sense 2 usually, -di·ums [*ME. < L. < Gr. stadion*, fixed standard of length, altered (after *stadion*, standing) < earlier *spadion* < *span*, to draw, pull (for *IE.* base see **SPAN**)] 1. in ancient Greece and Rome, *a*) a unit of linear measure, orig. equal to 600 Greek feet, or about 607 English feet *b*) a track for footraces, typically one stadium in length, with tiers of seats for spectators 2. a large oval, round, or U-shaped open structure, as for football, baseball, track events, etc., surrounded by tiers of seats, usually for thousands of spectators 3. *Zool.* a period or stage in the life history of an animal

Staël (stäl), Madame de, baronne de Staël-Holstein, (born Anne Louise Germaine Necker) 1766–1817; *Fr.* writer & mistress of a popular salon

staff (staf, stäf) *n.*, *pl.* staffs; also, for senses 1 & 5, staves [*ME. staf* < *OE. staf*, akin to *G. stab* < *IE.* base **stebh-*, post, pole, whence **STAMP**, **STEM**, *Sans. stabh-nāti*, (he) supports] 1. a stick, rod, or pole; specif., *a*) a stick used as a support in walking *b*) a pole or club used as a weapon *c*) a pole for supporting a banner or flag *d*) a rod, wand, crozier, etc. used as a symbol of authority *e*) [*Archaic*] a shaft, as of a lance *f*) any of several graduated sticks or rules used for measuring, as in surveying 2. a group of people assisting a chief, manager, president, or other leader 3. a group of officers serving a military or naval commanding officer in an advisory and administrative capacity without combat duties or command 4. a specific group of workers or employees (*a teaching staff*, newspaper *staff*, maintenance *staff*) 5. *Music* the five horizontal lines and four intermediate spaces on which music is written or printed —*adj.* of, by, for, or on a staff; specif., employed full-time on a magazine staff, etc. rather than as a freelance writer —*vt.* to provide with a staff, as of workers

***staff** (staf, stäf) *n.* [*< G. staffieren*, to fill out, decorate; via *Du. < OFr. estoffe*, **STUFF**] a building material of plaster and fiber, used for temporary decorative work

staff·er (-ər) *n.* a member of a staff, as of a newspaper **staff officer** 1. an officer serving on a staff *2. *U.S. Navy* a commissioned officer with nonmilitary duties, as a surgeon, chaplain, etc.

staff of life bread, regarded as the basic food

Staf·ford (staf'ərd) 1. county seat of Staffordshire, in the C part: pop. 49,000 2. same as **STAFFORDSHIRE**

Staf·ford·shire (-shir') county of WC England: 1,049 sq. mi.; pop. 985,000; county seat, Stafford

staff sergeant *1. *U.S. Army & Marine Corps* an enlisted man ranking above sergeant *2. *U.S. Air Force* an enlisted man ranking above airman first class

staff·tree (-trē') *n.* any of a genus (*Celastrus*) of shrubby, usually climbing, plants of the staff-tree family, growing in Asia, Australia, and N. America and including **BITTERSWEET** (sense 1) —*adj.* designating a family (*Celastraceae*) of widely distributed trees and twining shrubs bearing red seeds in pods and including khat, euonymus, etc.

stag (stag) *n.*, *pl.* stags, stag: see **PLURAL**, II, D, 1 [*ME. < OE. staggā*, akin to *ON. (andar)steggi*, drake; *IE.* base **stegh-*, to stick] 1. *a*) a full-grown male deer; hart; said specif. of the European red deer *b*) the male of various other animals, as the caribou 2. a male animal, esp. a hog, castrated in maturity *3. *a*) a man who attends a social gathering unaccompanied by a woman *b*) a social gathering attended by men only —*adj.* *for men only (*a stag dinner*) —*vt.* **staged**, **stag·ging** [*Brit. Slang*] to observe or follow secretly or furtively; spy on —*vi.* *to go to a party, etc. as a stag (sense 3 *a*) —**ago stag** [*Colloq.*] 1. to go as a stag (sense 3 *a*) 2. to go unescorted by a man

stag beetle any of a family (*Lucanidae*) of large beetles: the male has long, branched, antlerlike mandibles

stage (stāj) *n.* [*ME. < OFr. estage* < *VL. *statiūm* < *L. status*, pp. of *stare*, to STAND] 1. a platform or dock 2. a scaffold for workmen 3. a level, floor, or story 4. *a*) a platform on which plays, speeches, etc. are presented *b*) any area, as in an arena theater, in which actors perform *c*) the whole working section of a theater, including the acting area, the backstage area, etc. *d*) the theater, drama, or acting as a profession (with *the*) 5. *a*) the scene of an event or series of events *b*) the center of attention 6. a place where a stop is made on a journey, esp., formerly, a regular stopping point for a stagecoach 7. the distance or a part of a route between stopping places; leg of a journey 8. *clipped form* of **STAGECOACH** 9. a shelf

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thor-ough (thur'ō, -ə) *prep., adv.* [ME. *thoruh*, *thuruh*, an emphatic var. of *through*, *THROUGH* obs. var. of *THROUGH* —*adj.* 1. orig., passing through: now chiefly in combination, as in *thoroughfare* 2. done or proceeding through to the end; omitting nothing; complete [a *thorough* checkup] 3. that is completely (the thing specified); out-and-out; absolute [a *thorough* rascal] 4. very exact, accurate, or painstaking, esp. with regard to details [a *thorough* researcher] —*n.* [T-] *Eng. History* the ruthlessly thoroughgoing administrative policies carried out by William Laud and the Earl of Strafford during the reign of Charles I —*thor'ough-ly adv.* —*thor'ough-ness n.*
thorough bass *Music* 1. a) an old system for indicating accompanying chords by putting figures under the bass notes b) the figures used 2. loosely, the theory of harmony
thorough brace either of a pair of leather straps supporting the body of a coach or other horse-drawn vehicle and often serving as springs
thor-ough-bred (thur'ə bred') *adj.* 1. purebred, as a horse or dog; pedigreed 2. thoroughly trained, educated, cultured, etc.; well-bred 3. excellent; first-rate —*n.* 1. a thoroughbred animal; specif., [T-] any of a breed of racehorses developed originally by crossing English mares with Arabian stallions 2. a cultured, well-bred person
thor-ough-fare (-fer') *n.* [ME. *thurghfare*: see *THROUGH* & *FARE*] 1. a way or passage through 2. a public street open at both ends, esp. one through which there is much traffic; highway; main road
thor-ough-go-ing (-gō'ing) *adj.* very thorough; specif., a) precise and painstaking b) being wholly such; absolute; unmitigated [a *thoroughgoing* scoundrel]
thor-ough-paced (-pāst') *adj.* 1. thoroughly trained in all paces or gaits: said of horses 2. same as *THOROUGHGOING*
thor-ough-pin (-pin') *n.* a swelling in the sheath of a tendon in a horse's hock that shows on both sides of the leg like a pin going through
thor-ough-wort (-wurt') *n.* same as *BONESET*
thorp, thorpe (thōrp) *n.* [ME. < OE., akin to G. *dorf*, village < IE. base **treb-*, beamed structure, dwelling: cf. *TAVERN*] a village; hamlet: now mainly in place names
Thorpe (thōrp), Jim (James Francis Thorpe) 1888-1953; U.S. athlete
Thos. Thomas
those (thōz) *adj., pron.* [ME. *thas*, *thos* < OE. *thas*, *thas*, pl. of *thes*, *THIS*] pl. of *THAT*
Thoth (thōth, tōt) [L. < Gr. *Thōth* < Egypt. *Tehuti*] the ancient Egyptian god of wisdom, learning, and magic, the scribe of the gods: represented as having a human body and the head of either a dog or an ibis
thou (thou) *pron., pl. nom. & obj. you, ye; pl. poss. your, yours* [ME. < OE. *thu*, akin to G. *du* < IE. **tu*, whence L. *tu*, Sans. *tu*] the nominative second person singular of the personal pronoun: formerly used in familiar address but now replaced by *you* except in poetic or religious use and in some British dialects: *thee* is the objective case form, *thy* or *thine* the possessive, and *thyself* the intensive and reflexive
thou (thou) *n., pl. thou, thous* slang clipped form of *THOUSAND*
though (thō) *conj.* [ME. *thah*, *thogh* < OE. *theah* & cognate ON. *tho*, akin to G. *doch*, yet, however, Goth. *thauh*] 1. in spite of the fact that; notwithstanding that; although [though the car is new, it rattles] 2. and yet; nevertheless; however [they will probably win, though no one thinks so] 3. even if; supposing that [though he may fail, he will have tried] —*adv.* however; nevertheless [she sings well, though]
thought (thōt) *n.* [ME. *thought* < OE. *thoht* < PGmc. **thanht*, pret. of **thankjan* (whence OE. *thencan*: see *THINK*)] 1. the act or process of thinking; reflection; meditation; cogitation 2. the power of reasoning, or of conceiving ideas; capacity for thinking; intellect; imagination 3. a result of thinking; idea, concept, opinion, etc. 4. the ideas, principles, opinions, etc. prevalent at a given time or place or among a given people [modern *thought* in education] 5. attention; consideration; heed [give it a moment's *thought*] 6. mental engrossment; preoccupation; concentration [deep in *thought*] 7. intention or expectation [no *thought* of leaving] 8. a small amount, degree, etc.; a little; trifle [be a *thought* more careful] —*SYN.* see *IDEA*
thought (thōt) *pl. & pp. of THINK*
thought-ful (-fəl) *adj.* 1. full of thought; meditative; thinking 2. showing or characterized by thought; serious [a *thoughtful* essay] 3. heedful, careful, attentive, etc.; esp., considerate of others; kind —*thought'ful-ly adv.* —*thought'ful-ness n.*
SYN. —*thoughtful*, as compared here, implies the showing of thought for the comfort or well-being of others, as by anticipating their needs or wishes [it was *thoughtful* of you to call]; *considerate* implies a thoughtful or sympathetic regard for the feelings or circumstances of others, as in sparing them pain, distress, or discomfort [considerate enough to extend the time for payment]; *attentive* implies a constant thoughtfulness as shown by repeated acts of consideration, courtesy, or devotion [an *attentive* suitor] —*ANT.* *thoughtless*
thought-less (-lis) *adj.* 1. not stopping to think; careless

2. not given thought; ill-considered; rash 3. not considerate of others; inconsiderate 4. [Rare] stupid; senseless —*thought'less-ly adv.* —*thought'less-ness n.*
thou-sand (thou'z'nd) *n.* [ME. *thusend* < OE., akin to G. *tausend* < PGmc. **thus-hundi*, "many hundred" < IE. base **leu-*, to swell, increase + PGmc. **hundi*, HUNDRED] 1. ten hundred; 1,000; M 2. an indefinite but very large number: a hyperbolic use —*adj.* amounting to one thousand in number
thou-sand-fold (-fōld') *adj.* having a thousand times as much or as many —*adv.* a thousand times as much or as many: with *a* —*n.* a number or an amount a thousand times as great
★**Thousand Island dressing** a salad dressing made of mayonnaise with ketchup and minced pickles, capers, etc.
Thousand Islands group of over 1,500 islands in the St. Lawrence River at the outlet of Lake Ontario, some part of N.Y. State & some of Ontario, Canada
Thousand Oaks [after the many *oak* trees there] city in SW Calif., northwest of Los Angeles: pop. 78,000
thou-sandth (thou'z'ndth) *adj.* [THOUSAND + -TH'] 1. coming last in a series of a thousand 2. designating any of the thousand equal parts of something —*n.* 1. the thousandth one of a series 2. any of the thousand equal parts of something; 1/1000
Thrace (thrās) 1. ancient region in the E Balkan Peninsula 2. modern region in the SE Balkan Peninsula divided between Greece & Turkey
Thra-cian (thrā'shən) *adj.* of Thrace, its people, etc. —*n.* 1. a native or inhabitant of Thrace 2. the extinct language of ancient Thrace, usually assumed to belong to the Indo-European language family
thral (thrāl) *n.* [ME. *thral* < OE. *thræl* < ON. *thrall* < Gmc. **thranhilaz*, lit., the constrained one < IE. base **trek-*, to shove, press hard, whence *THROUGH*] 1. orig., a slave or bondman 2. a person under the moral or psychological domination of someone or something 3. slavery —*vt.* [Archaic] to enslave —*adj.* [Archaic] enslaved
thral-dom, thral-dom (-dəm) *n.* the condition of being a thrall; servitude; slavery
thrash (thrash) *vt.* [ME. *threschen* < OE. *therscan*, akin to G. *dreschen*, to thresh < IE. base **ter-*, to rub, rub away, whence L. *terere*, to rub] 1. same as *THRESH* 2. to make move violently or wildly; beat [a bird *thrashing* its wings] 3. to give a severe beating to; flog 4. to defeat overwhelmingly —*vi.* 1. same as *THRESH* 2. to move or toss about violently, flinging the arms, legs, etc. about wildly or vigorously [*thrashing* in agony] 3. to make one's way by thrashing —*n.* the act of thrashing —*SYN.* see *BEAT* —*thrash out* to settle by detailed discussion —*thrash over* to go over (a problem, etc.) in great detail
thrash-er (-ər) *n.* a person or thing that thrashes
thrash-er (thrash'ər) *n.* [E. dial. *thresher*, prob. akin to *THRUSH*] ★any of a group of gray to brownish American songbirds (genus *Toxostoma*) resembling the thrush by having a long, stiff tail and a long bill; esp., the brown thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) of the E U.S.
thrash-ing (thrash'ing) *n.* a beating; flogging
thra-son-i-cal (thrā sān'i k'al) *adj.* [L. *Thraso* (< Gr. *Thrasōn* < *thrasos*, too bold), braggart in Terence's *Eunuch* + -ICAL] boastful; bragging —*thra-son'i-cal-ly adv.*
thrawn (thrōn) *adj.* [L. < *thraw*, dial. form of *THROW*] [Scot.] 1. crooked; twisted 2. perverse
thread (thred) *n.* [ME. *threde* < OE. *thrād* (akin to G. *draht*), akin to *thrawan*, to twist: see *THROW*] 1. a) a light, fine, stringlike length of material made up of two or more fibers or strands of spun cotton, flax, silk, etc. twisted together and used in sewing b) a similar fine length of synthetic material, as nylon or plastic, or of glass or metal c) the fine, stringy filament extruded by a spider, silkworm, etc. d) any of the yarns of which a fabric is woven e) a fine, stringy length of syrup or other viscous material 2. any thin line, stratum, vein, stream, ray, etc. 3. an element suggestive of a thread in its continuousness, length, sequence, etc. [the *thread* of a story] 4. the spiral or helical ridge of a screw, bolt, nut, etc. ★5. [pl.] [Slang] a suit, or clothes generally —*vt.* 1. a) to put a thread through the eye of (a needle, etc.) b) to arrange thread for use on (a sewing machine) 2. to string (beads, etc.) on or as if on a thread 3. to fashion a thread (sense 4) on or in (a screw, pipe, etc.) 4. to interweave with or as if with threads [a red tapestry *threaded* with gold] 5. a) to pass through by twisting, turning, or weaving in and out [to *thread* the streets] b) to make (one's way) in this fashion —*vi.* 1. to go along or proceed in a winding way ★2. to form a thread when dropped from a spoon: said of boiling syrup that has reached a certain consistency —*thread'er n.* —*thread'like' adj.*
thread-bare (-ber') *adj.* 1. worn down so that the threads show; having the nap or surface fibers worn off [*threadbare* rugs] 2. wearing old, worn clothes; shabby 3. that has lost freshness or novelty; stale [a *threadbare* argument]
thread-fin (-fin') *n.* any of a family (Polynemidae) of saltwater fishes related to the mullets and having a divided pectoral fin that ends in threadlike rays

fat, āpe, cār, ten, ēven; is, bīte; gō, hōrn, tōōl, look; oil, out; up, fūr; get; joy; yet; chin; she; thin, then, zh, leisure; n, ring; e for a in ago, e in agent, i in sanily, o in comply, u in focus; ' as in able (ā'b'l); Fr. bāl; ē, Fr. cœur; ō, Fr. feu; Fr. mon; ō, Fr. coq; ū, Fr. duc; r, Fr. cri; H, G. ich; kh, G. doch. See inside front cover. ★Americanism; †foreign; *hypothetical; < derived from

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